



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

SJN
Docket No: 02403-09
7 January 2010



This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the United States Code, section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 5 January 2010. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.


You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 1 October 1981 at age 20. During the period from 4 October 1982 to 29 July 1983, you received three nonjudicial punishments (NJP's) for disrespectful language, failure to go to your appointed place of duty, absence from your appointed place of duty, and three days of unauthorized absence (UA). Additionally, you were counseled and warned that further misconduct could result in administrative discharge action. On 8 October 1983, you began a period of UA that lasted 25 days, ending on 2 November 1983. On 1 December 1983, you were convicted by special court-martial (SPCM) of two instances of failing to go to your appointed place of duty, leaving your appointed place of duty, three periods of UA totaling more than 25 days, and disobedience. You were sentenced to confinement at hard labor and a reduction in paygrade. On 26 January 1984, administrative discharge action was initiated by reason of misconduct due to a pattern of misconduct. You waived your rights to consult counsel, submit a statement or have your case heard by an administrative discharge board (ADB). Your commanding officer forwarded his recommendation that you be

discharged under other than honorable conditions by reason of misconduct. On 2 February 1984, the discharge authority directed an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct. On 20 February 1984 you were so discharged.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and overall record of service. Nevertheless, the Board found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given your record of three NJP's, SPCM, and the fact that you were counseled and warned of the consequences of further misconduct. Finally, the Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best opportunity for retention or a better characterization of service. Accordingly, your application has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,


W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director